

REMARKS

The Official Action dated November 18, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. The present application currently contains claims 1 through 25. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10, 13-15, 19 and 21-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,092,086 issued to McDonough et al. Claims 3, 4, 9-12, 17-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDonough et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,348,927 issued to Lipkin.

The foregoing amendment presents changes to independent claims 1, 13 and 19 to more clearly define the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention and distinguish the recited invention from the cited prior art. Appropriate changes have been made to the depend claims as required for consistency with the changes made to the independent claims.

The present Official Action also includes an objection to misnumbered claims 14 through 20, which have been renumbered by the Examiner as 19 through 25. Claim dependencies have been altered to reflect the renumbering. However, several of the renumbered claims incorrectly depended from claim 13, which claim has not been renumbered. These claims have been amended to depend from renumbered claim 19.

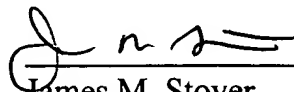
The rejection of claims 1 through 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is believed to be overcome by the amendments to independent claims 1, 13 and 19. Claim 1 has been amended to include the step of "storing within a database table, objects containing image data, said database table comprising at least one row including objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table." Similarly, claim 13 has been amended to include the element of "a database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing

geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table.” Claim 19 has been amended to recite an article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a server system to “receive a request from a client system for data in a database, said database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, and said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table.”

Each of claims 1, 13 and 19, as amended, defines a database including a database table comprising at least one row including objects containing image data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table. It is not seen that this database structure, i.e., this manner of storing image or geospatial data within a database, is taught or suggested in the cited references to McDonough et al. or Lipkin, taken singularly or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application including claims 1 through 15 and 17 through 25, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Stover
Reg. No. 32,759

NCR Corporation
1700 South Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45479-0001

Tel. No. (937) 445-7663
Fax No. (937) 445-4792

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)

APPENDIX A:
CLAIMS IN MARKED-UP FORM

1. (Amended) A method of gathering data from a database, comprising:
storing within a database table, objects containing image data, said database table comprising at least one row including objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table;

receiving, in a server system, objects [containing image data]
extracted from [the] at least one row of said database table in response to a request received from a client system, the objects corresponding to one or more layers;
and

in the server system, combining the objects and creating a file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the object comprises receiving objects extracted from an object relational database.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein creating the file comprises creating a markup language file.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein creating the markup language file comprises creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [receiving the objects comprises receiving objects containing] said objects contain geospatial data.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [receiving the objects comprises receiving the objects containing] said objects contain geospatial data and said multiple data types include at least one of the following elements: points, lines, and polygons.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [receiving the objects comprises receiving the objects containing] said objects contain geospatial data and said multiple data types include at least one of the following elements: an image, points, lines, and polygons.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein combining the objects comprises combining two or more of the image, points, lines, and polygons.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein creating the file comprises creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a request for plural layers of image data, and wherein receiving the objects comprises receiving objects extracted from the database for the plural layers.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein creating the file comprises creating a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
displaying image data represented by the Virtual Reality Markup Language file in the client system; and
generating the request for plural layers of image data in response to an interactive user action with respect to the displayed image data.

13. (Amended) A system comprising:
a database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table;

an interface to [a] said database system;
an interface to a client system; and
a controller adapted to receive a request from the client system, receive objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system in response to the request, and combine the objects into a file that provides a visual representation of the image data.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the database system comprises an object relational database system.

15. (Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein [the geospatial data contains] said multiple data types include at least one of an image, points, lines, and polygons.

16. Canceled

17. The system of claim 13, wherein the file comprises a markup language file.

18. The system of claim 13, wherein the file comprises a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.

19. (Amended) An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a server system to:

receive a request from a client system for data in a database, said database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, and said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table;

receive objects [containing geospatial data] from the database in response to the request; and

combine the objects into a file to represent an image that is a composite of the combined geospatial data.

20. (Amended) The article of claim [13] 19, wherein the instructions when executed cause the server system to combine the objects into a Virtual Reality Markup Language file.

21. (Amended) The article of claim [13] 19, wherein the instructions when executed cause the server system to receive objects [containing geospatial data that include] having multiple data types including at least one of an image, points, lines, and polygons.

22. (Amended) The article of claim 21, wherein the instructions when executed cause the server system to receive objects containing the image, points, lines, and polygons from different columns of [a table in the database] said database table.

23. The article of claim 22, wherein the instructions when executed cause the server system to receive objects from an object relational database system.

24. (Amended) The article of claim [13] 19, wherein the instructions when executed cause the server system to receive objects associated with a plurality of layers of an image.

25. (Amended) The article of claim [13] 19, wherein the request received from the client system is for a first layer of the image, the instructions when executed further causing the server system to receive a second request from the client system for a plurality of layers of the image.